

# Rooted - The Bond of Peace

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*An invitation from God to all humanity to behold and join the story, work, and eternal worship of Jesus.*

Colossians 1:15-17

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.



# CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

*A call to acknowledge and forsake sin against God and one another, and an invitation to receive the assurance of a new identity in the finished work of Christ.*

## CONFESSION

TOGETHER

Father, you reign over all, through all, and in all.

You have urged us to maintain the unity and Spirit of the bond of peace, but we confess that we have not.

We are slow to bear with one another in love, humility, and patience.

We confess we have distanced ourselves from life in You; our hearts have been hard and our wills are stubborn.

We let ourselves become callous to what is true,

TOGETHER

We act as slaves and rebels when we are your blood-bought people.

Have mercy on us as sinners, forgive us, and form Christ in us!

## ASSURANCE

LEADER

My friends, hear and remember the Gospel today.

God's light overcomes darkness and God's love is stronger than death. You have died with Christ and your life is hidden with your great Savior.

You have been raised with Christ, so come seek the things that are above, and set your minds where Christ is seated, at the right hand of God. Once you were a scattered, merciless people but now you are recipients of His precious mercy; deeply loved and chosen as God's own children.

LEADER

Today God has gathered us as His family!

We are a people who proclaim the excellencies of Jesus who called us to rise out of darkness into His Marvelous light.

TOGETHER

Thanks be to God!



# **BENEDICTION**

*A blessing from the authority of scripture spoken over the people of God.*

Ephesians 3:16-19

According to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

